

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date 7 February 2002 (07.02.2002)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number WO 02/011025 A3

(51) International Patent Classification7: G06F 17/60, H04L 12/58, 29/06

PCT/US01/23565 (21) International Application Number:

(22) International Filing Date: 25 July 2001 (25.07.2001)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data: 09/626,577

27 July 2000 (27.07.2000)

(71) Applicant: RPOST INTERNATIONAL, INC. [US/US]; Suite 1270, 6033 West Century Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90045 (US).

(72) Inventor: TOMKOW, Terrance, A., Ph., D.; 1301 Carmona Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90019 (US).

(74) Agents: PARKHURST, David, G. et al.; Fulwider Patton Lee & Utecht, LLP, Howard Hughes Center, 10th Floor, 6060 Center Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90045 (US).

(81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU,

CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH. GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.

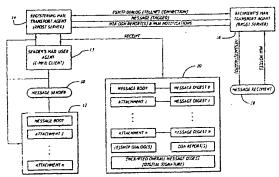
(84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments
- (88) Date of publication of the international search report: 14 August 2003

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR VERIFYING DELIVERY AND INTEGRITY OF ELECTRONIC MESSAGE



(57) Abstract: In order to provide third party verification of the content and delivery of an electronic message such as an e-mail, a server receives the e-mail intended to be sent or forwarded to a specified addressee, and "tags" the message to indicate that it is "registered" with the provider of the service. The server then establishes a direct telnet connection with the addressee's Mail User Agent (MUA), and transmits the tagged e-mail to the addressee's MUA, as well as to the MUA's of any other addressees. After receiving responses from the receiving MUA's that the message was successfully received, the server then creates and forwards to the message originator an electronic receipt. The receipt include one or more, and preferably all of, the following: the original message including any original attachments; a delivery success/failure table listing which addressee's MUA's successfully received message and at what time, and for which MUA's there was a delivery failure; and a digital signature corresponding to the message and attachments. By receiving the receipt at a later date and verifying that the digital signature matches the message and related information, the operators of the system can provide independent third party verification that the receipt is a genuine product of their system and that the information pertaining to content and delivery of the message is accurate, without the need to archive either the original message or the receipt.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Internation No PCT/US 01/23565

A. CLASSIF	GO6F17/60 H04L12/58 H04L29/06		
,			
According to	International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classificat	Ion and IPC	
B. FIELDS	SEARCHED		
Minimum do	cumentation searched (classification system followed by classification $H04L-G06F$	n symbols)	
110 /			
Documentat	ion searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that su	ch documents are included in the fields se	arched
	,		
Electronic d	ata base consulted during the International search (name of data bas	e and, where practical, search terms used)
EPO-In	ternal, WPI Data	, ,	
C. DOCUM	ENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		Relevant to claim No.
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the rele	vant passages	Helevant to claim No.
V D	WO 01 10090 A (TOMKOW TERRANCE A)		1-183
X,P	8 February 2001 (2001-02-08)		
	the whole document		
x	CERVENINI G ET AL: "A multiprovi	1-183	
	universal, e-mail service for the exchange of legally-binding multi		
	documents"		
	EUROCOMM 2000. INFORMATION SYSTEM		
	ENHANCED PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURI IEEE/AFCEA,		
	17 May 2000 (2000-05-17), XP0021		
	Retrieved from the Internet:		
	<pre><url:http. ieeexplore.ieee.org=""> 'retrieved on 2001-09-27!</url:http.></pre>		
	the whole document		
		-/	·
		•	
X Fur	ther documents are listed in the continuation of box C.	X Patent family members are listed	l in annex.
Special categories of cited documents:			
consi	nent defining the general state of the art which is not idered to be of particular relevance	cited to understand the principle or the invention	eory underlying the
"E" earlier	document but published on or after the International .	"X" document of particular relevance; the cannot be considered novel or cannot	t be considered to
"L' document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or involve an inventive step when the document is taken alon which is clied to establish the publication date of another "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention			
citation docum	on or other special reason (as specifica) nent referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or	cannot be considered to involve an li document is combined with one or m ments, such combination being obvious	aventive step when the fore other such docu-
other	means nent published prior to the international filling date but	in the art. *&* document member of the same paten	
later	than the priority date claimed e actual completion of the international search	Date of malling of the international se	
ì			
	11 June 2003	20/06/2003	
Name and	malling address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2	Authorized officer	
European Palent Office, P.B. 5816 Patentlaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31–70) 340–2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31–70) 340–3016		Buron, E	

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Internat Application No
PCT/US 01/23565

	PCT/US 01/23565				
C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No.					
Ciletion of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.				
WO 98 17042 A (BARKAN MORDHAI) 23 April 1998 (1998-04-23) abstract; figures page 22, line 1 -page 27, line 4	1-183				
WO 96 38987 A (SLOO MARSHALL A) 5 December 1996 (1996-12-05) abstract; figures page 1, line 6 - line 23 page 3, line 4 - line 8 page 6, line 16 -page 7, line 4 page 9, line 7 -page 13, line 23	1-183				
WO 99 08424 A (WOLF HANS HERMANN ;SIEMENS AG (DE)) 18 February 1999 (1999-02-18) abstract; figures page 2, line 22 -page 4, line 8	1-183				
US 5 553 145 A (MICALI SILVIA) 3 September 1996 (1996-09-03) abstract; figure 1 column 6, line 46 -column 9, line 42	1-183				
"METHOD FOR AUTOMATED COMMUNICATION TO THIRD PARTIES UPON COMPOSITE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT" IBM TECHNICAL DISCLOSURE BULLETIN, IBM CORP. NEW YORK, US, vol. 37, no. 2B, 1 February 1994 (1994-02-01), pages 345-346, XP000433872 ISSN: 0018-8689 the whole document	15,23,24				
MOORE K ET AL: "An Extensible Message Format for Delivery Status Notifications" IETF REQUEST FOR COMMENTS, XX, XX, no. 1894, January 1996 (1996-01), pages 1-39, XP002154302 page 6, line 27 -page 7, line 33 page 14, line 28 -page 20, line 34	49-51,77				
	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages WO 98 17042 A (BARKAN MORDHAI) 23 April 1998 (1998-04-23) abstract; figures page 22, line 1 -page 27, line 4 WO 96 38987 A (SLOO MARSHALL A) 5 December 1996 (1996-12-05) abstract; figures page 1, line 6 - line 23 page 3, line 4 - line 8 page 6, line 16 -page 7, line 4 page 9, line 7 -page 13, line 23 WO 99 08424 A (WOLF HANS HERMANN ;SIEMENS AG (DE)) 18 February 1999 (1999-02-18) abstract; figures page 2, line 22 -page 4, line 8 US 5 553 145 A (MICALI SILVIA) 3 September 1996 (1996-09-03) abstract; figure 1 column 6, line 46 -column 9, line 42 "METHOD FOR AUTOMATED COMMUNICATION TO THIRD PARTIES UPON COMPOSITE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT" IBM TECHNICAL DISCLOSURE BULLETIN, IBM CORP. NEW YORK, US, vol. 37, no. 2B, 1 February 1994 (1994-02-01), pages 345-346, XP000433872 ISSN: 0018-8689 the whole document MOORE K ET AL: "An Extensible Message Format for Delivery Status Notifications" IETF REQUEST FOR COMMENTS, XX, XX, no. 1894, January 1996 (1996-01), pages 1-39, XP002154302 page 6, line 27 -page 7, line 33				

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

In amation on patent family members

internati Application No
PCT/US 01/23565

					101/03 01/23505	
	atent document d in search report		Publication date	·	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO	0110090	A	08-02-2001	AU WO	6610300 A 0110090 A1	19-02-2001 08-02-2001
WO 	9817042	Α	23-04-1998	AU EP WO	4570497 A 0958673 A2 9817042 A2	11-05-1998 24-11-1999 23-04-1998
WO	9638987	Α	05-12-1996	AU WO	5883896 A 9638987 A1	18-12-1996 05-12-1996
MO	9908424	Α	18-02-1999	WO	9908424 A1	18-02-1999
US	5553145	А	03-09-1996	WO US US EP US EP JP	9806198 A1 5629982 A 6137884 A 2215908 A1 0815671 A1 9629795 A1 5666420 A 6141750 A 0917781 A1 2000515649 T	12-02-1998 13-05-1997 24-10-2000 26-09-1996 07-01-1998 26-09-1996 09-09-1997 31-10-2000 26-05-1999 21-11-2000